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RIVISTA ITALIANA DI SOCIOLOGIA. Consiglio Direttivo, A. Bosco, S. Cognetti de Martiis, V. Tangorra, G. Cavaglieri, G. Sergi, E. E. Tedeschi. Anno I., fasc. i-iii, Luglio—Novembre, 1897. Roma: Fratelli Bocca. Pp. 408.

The Italians have always distinguished themselves in Physical Science, Medicine, Law, and Sociology. The very handsome periodical, of which three numbers are before us, does credit both to its editors and to Italy. Every number will contain "1, original articles, selected according to subjects, and brief notes and communications on burning themes and questions; 2, a 'large' review of Italian and foreign publications—books, reviews, and reports of academies—relating to sociology and kindred subjects; 3, a chronicle, with accounts of sociological studies." The following are among the aims of the Rivista: (1) to keep sociology within its proper limits, and not allow it to invade the sphere of biology; (2) to trace the history and growth of social institutions and phenomena among primitive peoples; (3) to develop the sociological side of the different social sciences, and especially of those doctrines which contribute directly or indirectly to explain the formative and evolutionary process of society; (4) to co-ordinate the results thus far obtained from sociological research, so as to reach a scientific synthesis which shall explain the laws of social evolution. To attain such aims the Rivista will contain articles on sociology proper, on ethnology, philology, history, laws, and customs, as well as on racial psychology, economy, social ethics, history of culture, and demography. It will be independent of all parties and all schools; and will allow each contributor to speak for himself, with the sole proviso that he adhere rigorously to the positive method, avoiding all *a priori* assertions and empty formulas. It will keep its readers informed regarding all scientific advances at home and abroad.

If we may judge from the numbers before us, the programme thus sketched will be faithfully carried out. The articles, reviews, and chronicles are alike excellent. The list of contributors contains many names of high scientific repute from many lands, including even two from the United States. Among the more notable articles in the numbers before us are these: "The Old and the New Phase in the Theory of Population" (Loria); "The Sociological Aspect of Suicide" (Durkheim); "The Political and Economic Ideas of Ancient China" (Puini); "The Place of Sociology among the

Social Sciences" (Pareto); "The Origins of Human Societies" (Gumpłowicz); "The Future of Democracy" (Tosti); "The Legal Status of Negro Slaves in the American States" (Westermarck); "Ideal and Positive Science in Sociology" (Tangorra); "Sensibility and Social Condition" (Ottolenghi); "The Ultimate Law of Social Evolution" (Vaccaro); "The Fundamental Laws of Anthro-Sociology" (De Laponge); "Criminal Sociology" (Sergi). Many of these articles are admirable, both in matter and in form.

THOMAS DAVIDSON.

NEW YORK.

#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

**THE SECRET OF HEGEL:** Being the Hegelian System in Origin, Principle, Form, and Matter. By James Hutchison Stirling, LL.D. New edition carefully revised. Edinburgh: Oliver and Boyd, 1897. [In these days, when Hegel is beginning to be known among us, a reprint of the earliest exposition of his doctrine can hardly fail to be welcome,—the earliest and still one of the most painstaking, brilliant, and suggestive. It is a work of real genius, and has been far too little appreciated. The changes in substance are slight, chiefly the addition of a few foot-notes. There is a new preface, short but very characteristic. One of Dr. Stirling's great merits is his accuracy of translation. Attention may be called, for instance, to his account of the meaning of *Schlecht-Unendlich* (p. 553). But probably the part of the book which is of most interest to readers of this JOURNAL is the conclusion, in which the relations of Hegel's Philosophy to Religion, Political Economy, etc., are vigorously discussed.]

**STUDIES IN PHILOSOPHICAL CRITICISM AND CONSTRUCTION.** By Sydney Herbert Mellone, M.A., D.Sc. Edinburgh and London: William Blackwood & Sons, 1897. [Hegelian in general tendency, but modified by the criticisms of Bradley and Professor A. Seth.]

**PRACTICAL IDEALISM.** By William De Witt Hyde, President of Bowdoin College. New York: The Macmillan Co.; London: Macmillan & Co., 1897. [Based on Hegel and his recent exponents,—Caird, Bosanquet, Dewey, etc.]

**VARIOUS FRAGMENTS.** By Herbert Spencer. London: Williams & Norgate, 1897.

**INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY.** By Sidney and Beatrice Webb. London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1898.

**THE RISE OF DEMOCRACY.** By J. Holland Rose, M.A. London, Glasgow, and Dublin: Blackie & Son, 1897. [Chapters on "The Origin of English Radicalism," "Radicals and the Reform Bill of 1832," "The Revolt against the New Poor-Laws," "The Fight for a Free Press," "Crown, Parliament,